Boerne ISD BYOD

Frequently Asked Questions

Students

1. **I brought my device to school to use in the classroom, but my teacher said I couldn't use it in her classroom. Can I still use it?**

   Answer: No. The teacher in the classroom has the final say on procedures in the classroom. If he or she tells you to put your device away or turn it in during the period, then you will follow those instructions. Access is available but not guaranteed for each classroom situation.

2. **I don't have my own mobile device to bring to school. Will I be penalized or miss out on instruction?**

   Answer: No. It is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they own one. When electronic devices are used to enhance learning in the classroom, students without a device will be provided access to an appropriate device if needed. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device.

3. **I have my laptop/mobile device with me in class. How do I get on the Internet now?**

   Answer: Most laptops and other personal devices with WiFi will detect a wireless connection when you are near one. With WiFi turned on, your device should prompt you to join an available network. Choose "webauth." If "webauth" is not viewable, select join other, enter "webauth." It will bring "webauth" up if within range. Once "webauth" is selected to join, connection should be made and a login screen will appear. Enter your district credentials. Select - done. You now are connected to the Internet.

4. **I can't get my laptop to connect to the Internet. Can I get some help from someone?**

   Answer: It is not the responsibility of your teacher or other BISD staff to troubleshoot individual devices during the school day. Check your owner's manual for issues concerning connectivity.

5. **Can I use my own data plan (3G or 4G service) while on the school premises or must I connect to the Internet through the Boerne ISD wireless network?**

   Answer: It is absolutely required that you use the district-filtered wireless and is stated as such in the handbook as well as the student Responsible Use Policy. Using your own wireless provider during school is a breach of both agreements and the violation will result in consequences for inappropriate use. Only through our filtered wireless can we attempt to prevent access to inappropriate Internet material.

6. **Why am I filtered on my own computer? Shouldn't I be able to see what I want to on my own tool?**

   Answer: Student filtering is required by federal law of all public schools. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all network access to be filtered, regardless of the tool you use to access it while in a public school. Your laptop or smart phone is the device. The network you are using while at school belongs to BISD and will be filtered.

7. **Can I connect my laptop to an open network port and gain access to the Internet?**

   Answer: No. BISD is only providing access to personal devices through the wireless network.

8. **What if my laptop or device is stolen or damaged? What recourse can I take?**

   Answer: Students bring electronic communication devices at their own risk, just like any other personal item. The district will not be held responsible if an electronic device is stolen, lost, damaged or misplaced while on school property. This includes when those devices have been confiscated. When a theft occurs, you should contact a school resource officer (SRO) to make him/her aware of the offense. It is recommended that tracking software be available on your device.

9. **I am uncertain on specific policy regarding times and locations my personal device can be used during the school day. Exactly when am I allowed?**

Middle/Elementary School Appropriate Use	
Before/after school	Yes
In class when my teacher designates use for learning	Yes
During passing period	No
During lunch	No

High School Appropriate Use	
Before/after school	Yes
In class when my teacher designates use for learning	Yes
During passing period	Yes
During lunch	Yes

PARENTS

1. **My child is bringing his/her iPad to school for instructional purposes. Will he have access to things he normally does with district equipment?**

   Answer: Your child will have access to any of the web-based software high school campuses currently use (Databases, library search tools, Google Apps, etc.). Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons. You should consult your owner's manual for software limitations.

2. **As a parent, am I required to add additional software (virus protection, filter, tracking device, etc.) to my child's technology tool?**

   Answer: No. Currently, we are not requiring any additional software for school use. Virus protection is always advised, but not required. While on the BISD network, students will be monitored through the district's filtering system, so there is no need for additional filtering software. However, you may wish to use additional filtering software at your discretion.

3. **I have read the terms of service and I do not wish to have my child access the Internet using her personal laptop. I would like to allow her to use her computer for productivity, but not the Internet. Is this possible?**

   Answer: Yes. Your child may choose not to access the Internet; however, the rules outlined in the Responsible Use Policy still apply for technology use of any kind (Internet or other). In addition, it is not the responsibility of campus staff to ensure she has not accessed the Internet on her own technology device. Damage or theft is still the responsibility of the owner.

4. **If my child's laptop is stolen or damaged, what recourse can I take?**

   Answer: The district is not responsible for any damage or theft of student-owned equipment. Installing tracking software can help locate the equipment if it is stolen, and keeping track of the device's serial number, model and type will be helpful as well. Theft or vandalism of any kind should be reported immediately to the School Resource Officer (SRO) on campus so he/she can take the appropriate steps.

5. **What are the campus/classroom rules for using student-owned devices including smart phones?**

   Answer: Teachers make the final decision for any tools used in the classroom; student-owned equipment would be no different. It will be up to the individual teachers to communicate their expectations to parents and students. Please refer to the Responsible Use Policy and student handbook for further details regarding district policy.

6. **Will my child have access to communication tools like email while on the BISD network?**

   Answer: Yes. Students can have access to their school-issued Google Apps for Education email and communication accounts.

7. **Where can I see the Responsible Use Policy?**

   Answer: The Responsible Use Policy can be found by on the main website. (Parents, Publications/Forms.)

8. **My child will NOT bring a personal mobile device to school. Will his grade be penalized or will he miss instruction?**

   Answer: No. It is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they own one. When electronic devices are used to enhance learning in the classroom, students without a device will be provided access to an appropriate device if needed. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device.

9. **I have a data plan for my child to access the Internet while using their device. Can he use his personal data plan?**

   Answer: No. Student filtering is required by federal law of all public schools. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all network access to be filtered, regardless of the tool being used to access it while in a public school. The network all students must use while on school premises belongs to BISD and will be filtered.

STAFF

1. **Do I, as the teacher, have the choice when students can use their technology devices?**

   Answer: Yes. Students may use technology at the discretion of the teacher as the lesson warrants the use.

2. **If a student is misusing his/her personal mobile device or is using it during a time when I specifically stated that they were not to be used, what recourse can I take?**

   Answer: The device may be confiscated during the class period. Depending on the severity of the offense, you may need to follow further campus disciplinary action or contact your administrator. ***Do not view content on the device***; only your administrator has authority to do this.

3. **Some of my students cannot access the network on their laptops or other mobile devices. I don't have time in a class period to help them with this. Should I put in a help request or call the help desk?**

   Answer: No. Students who cannot access the BISD wireless network, or who may have technical issues with their technology tool, need to take care of this issue outside of the classroom by working with their user's manual that came with the device. These are not BISD devices, and the district is not allocating resources at this time to trouble-shoot issues. You are welcome to help if you choose, but it is not a staff member's responsibility to ensure that student-owned technology is functioning properly.

4. **Should I call central office if one of my student's laptops is damaged or stolen?**

   Answer: No. Any theft issues should be handled as you normally would on your campus. BISD is not responsible for any damage or theft of student owned technology tools. It would be good to remind students to keep a record of the device's serial number just in case a theft occurs.

5. **If a mobile device is needed by every student for a particular lesson, can I require the student to bring a device?**

   Answer: No. Best practice is to design a lesson that does not require every student to have a device at one time. A more efficient design involves collaboration. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device.

6. **Can a student's grade or instruction be impacted if a student does not have a device?**

   Answer: No. Students will not be penalized for not bringing a personal device to class. In addition, if lessons are designed that require all students to have a device, you must make certain that all students have one available by utilizing available mobile carts, the library, integration labs, or classroom technologies.